

INFORMATION ABOUT BENEFITS PAST AGE 18

If you qualify for Social Security benefits because you are a full-time student, you can start receiving benefits as early as age 18 and usually through the month you graduate from secondary school, or the month before age 19, whichever is earlier. Your benefits will be paid in your own name beginning at age 18, either by direct deposit or by mail. Generally, we consider you to be a full-time student if you are in full-time attendance at a school that provides education at the secondary (grade 12) level or below. Full-time attendance means you are scheduled to attend classes at the rate of 20 hours per week, or at the rate determined by your school to be full-time.

INFORMATION ABOUT BENEFITS PAST AGE 19

Your benefits may continue past age 19 if you are in actual full-time attendance at a school that provides elementary or secondary education in the month you become age 19. If the school operates on a yearly basis, then payment may be continued after age 19 up through the earlier of (1) the month you complete the course in which you are enrolled full-time or (2) the second month after the month you become age 19. If the school requires re-enrollment on other than a yearly basis, benefits may continue through the month ending the term that is in progress when you become age 19. If you believe this situation applies to you, contact any Social Security office for assistance. Note that payments beyond age 19 cannot be made if you become age 19 in a month of nonattendance (for example, you become age 19 in a month when you are on summer vacation).

IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITIES

YOU MUST NOTIFY THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION PROMPTLY IF:

- YOU MARRY
- YOU STOP ATTENDING SCHOOL
- YOU REDUCE YOUR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE BELOW FULL-TIME
- YOU CHANGE SCHOOLS
- YOU ARE PAID BY YOUR EMPLOYER TO ATTEND SCHOOL (at the request of or as a requirement of your employer)
- YOU ARE CONVICTED OF A CRIME

Your benefits may end if any of the above occur. You must report each of these events even if you believe your benefits should not end. We will tell you about how your benefits may be affected.

YOU SHOULD ALSO NOTIFY THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION PROMPTLY IF:

- YOU MOVE OR CHANGE YOUR MAILING ADDRESS
- YOUR ESTIMATED EARNINGS FROM WORK CHANGE

When you are awarded Social Security benefits as a student, you will receive a booklet that further covers your responsibilities. It is important for you to read that booklet.